

REMARKS

Prior to discussing the present response, applicants would like to thank the Examiner in charge of the present application, Examiner Leah Schlientz, for the courteous and helpful telephone interview extended to applicants' undersigned representative on December 5, 2007. The substance of the interview is discussed hereinbelow.

The Office has maintained the rejection of claims 11 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Suh et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,117,440; the rejection of claims 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by McKechnie et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0198625; and the rejection of claims 11 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Woodfolk et al. (J. Allergy and Clinical Immunology, 1994, 94, pp. 19-26 (abstract)).

Claims 11 to 13 and 35 have been cancelled. Thus, these rejections are moot.

The Office has also maintained the rejection of claims 11-13 and 35-37 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hikada et al., JP 59-100715. In maintaining the rejection, the Office notes that the claims of the present application do not limit the allergen to a specific type of allergen. The position of the Office is that Hikada teaches antibacterial activity with the

claimed compound. Since bacteria illicit an immune response, they are within the scope of the present claims.

The rejection as it applies to claims 11 to 13 and 35 is moot in view of the cancellation of these claims.

Claims 36 and 37 have been amended to be in independent form and to limit the allergens to acarian allergens. This amendment is supported, for example, by the descriptions in paragraphs [0109], [0165] - [0171], [0188] - [0193], [0218] - [0231] and [0280] - [0283] of the publication of the present application, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005-0095222.

The amendments to claims 36 and 37 are not believed to require any further search and/or consideration and are believed to be proper for entry because the amendments limit the claims in a manner that appears to have been considered by the Office to avoid the rejection over Hidaka. Since claims 36 and 37 are not rejected in the Action over any of Suh et al., Mckechnie et al., or Woodfolk et al., they are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

During the telephone interview on December 5, 2007, Examiner Schleintz advised that she believed, albeit she could not guarantee, that amendments to claims 36 and 37 limiting the allergens in the method of inhibiting allergens of the present

application to acarian allergens would overcome the rejection of claims 36 and 37.

Claims 36 and 37 as amended herein are believed to be patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Removal of the 35 U.S.C. 102 rejections of the claims and an allowance of these claims are in order and are respectfully requested.

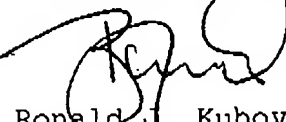
Withdrawn claims 1 to 10 and 14 to 34 have also been canceled.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated August 24, 2007.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension and any additional required fees may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,  
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